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Australia-New Zealand

TAKE TIME TO TRAVEL

Depart USA



Depart USA to Sydney to Cairns

International Date Line

No Plans For This Day

Arrive Cairns



Arrive Cairns

By crossing international date line, you have arrived "technically" 2 days after you departed.



Private car transfer to Port Douglas



Check into Boutique Hotel at Port Douglas

3 nights

Port Douglas Australia is just an hour's drive north from Cairns via a spectacular coastal road that is surrounded by forest and the Coral Sea. Port Douglas offers a village by the sea ambience where nothing is built higher than a coconut tree! Still just a small village with its many fishing boats, Port Douglas offers many superb restaurants and quaint shops in its tree lined streets.



Remainder of afternoon/evening at your leisure

Port Douglas--DAY TRIP



8:00 AM - 8 hr

Low Isles Sailing & Snorkeling Trip

Join your transfer to the wharf this morning and board the vessel to enjoy a full day reef and island cruise to Low Isles. Sail to and explore this protected coral cay, with white sandy beaches and coconut palms, surrounded by coral gardens and the Coral Sea.

Sailaway moors in the sheltered blue lagoon for five hours. Just relax on the island, join the guided snorkel tour, take a trip on the glass bottom boat or laze on the deck after a buffet lunch. Later, enjoy sailing back to the mainland.



Remainder of late afternoon/evening at your leisure

Port Douglas--DAY TRIP



8:30 AM - 8 hr 30 min

Cape Tribulation/Daintree

Your naturalist guide will meet you at your accommodation and after introductions all round we then drive north along the scenic route via Mossman to Cape Tribulation. Lush farmland contrasts with seascape as we approach the majestic Daintree River. Time for a short morning tea break then its 'all aboard' for an informative river cruise. Relax and enjoy the splendor only the Daintree can offer as you learn of Estuarine Crocodiles, mangrove forests and wildlife, this is nature at its best! Ascend the Alexandra Range and pause for a panoramic view of World Heritage Tropical Rainforest merging with the azure colours of the Coral Sea. Experience the rainforest intimately on our elevated National Park Boardwalk. Accurate interpretations of flora and fauna will be given with ample time for photographs and questions as we search for the elusive, rare and totally unique Southern Cassowary and other wildlife species within this habitat. A delicious barbecue lunch with freshly prepared salads is served while you can hand feed Wallabies and enjoy a cold drink from the bar at your own cost.

Our tour does a little more, it takes you beyond Cape Tribulation along 7kms of the 4WD Bloomfield Track too pristine Emmagen Creek and time for a refreshing rainforest fresh water swim. Seek fish and turtles in the creek, butterflies and exotic birds in the trees and indulge in a taste testing of tropical fruit, a cup of traditional Billy Tea, and damper all of which enhance the tranquil surroundings. At Cape Tribulation Beach, there is a little time to stroll along the beach and boardwalk to the photographers' platform overlooking the mountains and coast where the 'Rainforest meets the Reef'.

After a short afternoon refreshment stop, we cross the Daintree River by cable ferry and begin our homeward journey somewhat wiser for our 'Total Rainforest Experience'.



Cairns to Melbourne



Check out of Port Douglas hotel



Private car transfer to airport for departure



Flight Cairns to Melbourne

approximately 3h30mn flight



Private car transfer to hotel



Check into Melbourne city central hotel

2 nights

Simply stated, Melbourne is friendly elegance. Enjoy Melbourne's Old World charm and sophisticated elegance, as you stroll through formal gardens, boat on the lazy Yarra River, wander down broad, tree-lined avenues, admire stately buildings, or shop in the fine boutiques. There is a wonderfully friendly welcome found in the charming sidewalk cafes, the delightful trams, and the streets and markets of distinctive ethnic neighbourhoods. This is especially so in the boisterous crowds at an Aussie Rules Football match. Melbourne is a reflection of them all; a financial centre, a haven for theatre and fine arts, a culinary mecca, a multicultural gathering place, and a crazed sports capital. Altogether, the city's 19th Century nickname seems highly appropriate 'Marvellous Melbourne'.



Remainder of late afternoon/evening at your leisure

Melbourne all day



8:00 AM - 4 hr 30 min

Melbourne Morning City Tour

This Melbourne tour is a great introduction to a beautiful city. Start the day heading northeast of the city and tour through 'Little Italy' with its plethora of restaurants and boutique shops. See the exquisite architecture of Melbourne University and the Royal Exhibition Buildings before making a brief photo stop at St Patrick's Cathedral. Spend time at the Fitzroy Gardens and the highlight of the morning - a guided walk through some of Melbourne's best arcades and laneways with the chance to enjoy the cosmopolitan atmosphere and enjoy a coffee break.



1:15 PM - 8 hr

Penguins of Philip Island with VIP Skybox Tour

Phillip Island is a treasure trove of Australian wildlife; seals, koalas, kangaroos, wallabies, birdlife and penguins! Visit Warrook Homestead for afternoon tea (own expense). This unique historical farm has been in operation for over 100 years! Here guests will be able to get up close to kangaroos and see koalas in the Fauna Park (animal feed available at own expense). There will also be access to the lovely homestead on the property and visit the Phillip Island Nature Park. At the Koala Conservation Centre, look for koalas in their natural habitat. Every evening at dusk the Little Penguins come from the sea at Phillip Island so before sunset, head to the Penguin Parade where your private ranger guide will escort you to your exclusive fully covered viewing platform to watch the penguins arrival.

Next, the VIP treatment continues with entry to the Underground Viewing Area. Enjoy up-close viewing of the Little penguins in their natural habitat through an underground viewing window, with the comfort and convenience of being indoors, undercover and out of the elements. There is a stop for dinner (own expense) before returning to Melbourne.



Melbourne to Sydney



Check out of Melbourne hotel

They will hold your luggage until time for airport departure



Morning and early afternoon at your leisure



Private car transfer to airport for departure to Sydney



Flight departure Melbourne to Sydney

approximate 1h30mn flight time



Private car transfer to Sydney hotel



Check into Sydney central city hotel

3 nights

As Australia's largest city, Sydney embraces its harbour, taking the sea and natural waterways to its heart. The grand style of the Sydney Opera House has made the city the landmark of the South Pacific. Sydney, with some 4 million people is the oldest, biggest, and liveliest city in Australia. Sydney's facilities for sightseeing and holiday activities are unequalled by any other Australian city. It is a paradise for surfers, swimmers, yachtsmen, fishermen, and golfers. Full of history and great nightlife, the choice of things to do in Sydney is endless.



Remainder of late afternoon/evening at your leisure

Sydney all day



12:15 PM

Luxury Whale Watching cruise

You can have a leisurely morning today, and then at midday be ready for your whale watching cruise.

This is whale watching and Iconic Sydney Harbour at its finest. Perfect for families, couples, individuals or small groups wanting that more personal whale watching experience.



Remainder of late afternoon/evening at your leisure

Sydney all day



Sydney Opera House Tour & Tasting Plate

(AT A TIME OF YOUR CHOOSING)

Begin your journey by exploring underneath the sails with a spectacular Sydney Opera House Tour, taking you inside one of the world's greatest buildings of all time. You will see inside the theatres, discover the stories, history and magic of the Sydney Opera House and learn of how architect Jorn Utzon's heritage-listed masterpiece came to life.

You can also decide when to take your Opera Kitchen three-tier gourmet tasting plate, before or after your tour as lunch or return for dinner at dusk or a late supper. There's nothing more to do than sit back at Sydney's newest dining spot and indulge in famous oysters, mini wagyu Burgers or dumplings and soak in the Sydney Harbour views.

Opera Kitchen is home to Sydney's best chefs, food artisans and producers that will tantalise your taste buds and leave you spoilt for choice. The perfect way to experience one of the world's most stunning icons and Sydney's newest dining destination.



3:30 PM - 3 hr

Sydney Twilight Bridge Summit

START TIME WILL VARY BASED ON SEASON

The colours of twilight add an element of romance to your journey, as you watch the magical lights of Sydney flicker around you. The city's dusk sky is truly breathtaking, alongside the bridges powerful structure. There are two options for climbing during twilight: you can experience the transition from day into twilight (early twilight) or twilight into night (late twilight). On either climb, you will begin your ascent in daylight and descend at night, with full night climb equipment provided.

Day 11



Check out of Sydney hotel



Private car transfer to Sydney airport



Flight Sydney to Queenstown, NZ

approximately 3h flight time



Private car transfer to Queenstown



Check into Queenstown Boutique Hotel

3 nights

Queenstown, New Zealand, is the Southern Hemisphere's premier four season lake and alpine resort. Surrounded by majestic mountains and nestled on the shores of crystal clear Lake Wakatipu. Queenstown's stunning scenery is inspiring and revitalising. With such a huge range of activities in Queenstown, no two days will ever be the same.



Remainder of afternoon/evening at your leisure

Queenstown--DAY TRIP



7:00 AM - 13 hr

Milford Sound Cruise including lunch

Travel by luxury coach on an unforgettable journey from Queenstown into Milford Sound. Located within the World Heritage Fiordland National Park, this region is rich with dense rainforest, lakes and waterfalls cascading from rugged mountain peaks. Journey through the Southern Alps via the Homer Tunnel, a 1.2km tunnel drilled through a solid mountain of rock. Upon arrival at Milford Sound, board your Red Boat vessel for a spectacular cruise where you will see the wonders of Mitre Peak, glacier scarred rock walls that rise 1,200m vertically from the sea, and waterfalls that tumble from hanging valleys and crash into the sound far below. Return by coach to Queenstown.



Queenstown all day



Queenstown all day at your leisure



Queenstown to Rotorua



Morning at your leisure



Check out of Queenstown hotel



Private car transfer to Queenstown airport for departure



Flight Queenstown to Wellington to Rotorua

approximate total 2h30mn, flight time, plus time for connection



Private car transfer to Rotorua hotel



Check into Rotorua Boutique Hotel

3 nights



Remainder of evening at your leisure

Rotorua all day



8:00 AM - 4 hr 30 min

Discover Rotorua Morning Tour

Today on your morning tour you will visit Te Puia and the Maori Arts and Crafts Institute where you can view mighty geysers, boiling mud pools, and the traditional arts and culture of the Maori People. You will also experience Rainbow Springs which is a unique showcase of New Zealand's flora and fauna including New Zealand's national icon, a kiwi bird. Last but not least, you will have a hands on experience at the Agrodome Sheep Show, giving you an animated insight into New Zealand's farming history.



5:00 PM - 3 hr 30 min

Rotorua Journey of the Ages

This evening you will engage in a wonderful experience at the Tamaki Maori Village. Enroute your guide will instruct you on the rules and protocol for visiting Marae (meeting grounds). On arrival at the venue, nobody must enter the fortified village until the Powhiri (formal welcome) has been performed. The host tribe will send out a toa (warrior) who will challenge the guests, via their elected chief to ascertain if they come in peace. A Teka (peace offering) is placed and received by one of the visiting chiefs. At the Village, the Karanga, or "welcome call" will echo across the courtyard, followed by the Powhiri (welcome dance). You will then be able to enter onto the village grounds where the Tangata Whenua (people of the land) will demonstrate different activities such as poi twirling, hand games, weaponry displays, reciting chants and displaying activities of an era gone by.

The buffet style dinner will be held in the meetinghouse dining hall and will have everyone enjoying a succulent Hangi feast. The evening ends with the Poroporoaki, the official closing ceremony and you will be safely transferred back to your accommodation.

Rotorua to Auckland



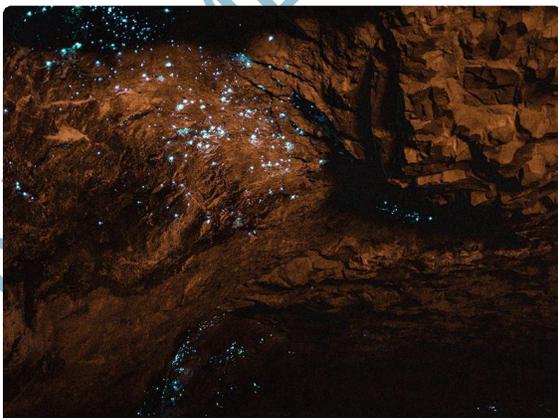
Check out of Rotorua hotel



7:30 AM - 7 hr 30 min

Rotorua to Auckland via Waitomo Glowworm Caves including lunch

Enjoy a day trip from Rotorua to Auckland through lush rolling farm landscape to the mystical Waitomo Glowworm Caves. After lunch enjoy a guided tour through the galleries and lofty chambers of the Caves. Your tour culminates with a boat ride through the Glowworm Grotto - lit up by thousands of tiny living lights. Continue your journey through to Auckland.



Check into Auckland city center hotel

1 night

(THIS IS REALLY JUST A STOPOVER TO POSITION YOU FOR DEPARTURE TOMORROW.)

Auckland, a city where one out of every six residents owns a boat, is nicknamed the City of Sails. Sprawling across two large harbours, it is the largest city in New Zealand. As the main gateway to New Zealand, Auckland has a multi cultural population of more than a million people and is surrounded by expansive parklands and water. Cultured and cosmopolitan, progressive and historic, Polynesian and European, accessible to beaches and forests, adventure sports and leisure activities, Auckland offers something for everyone.



Remainder of late afternoon/evening at your leisure

Depart to USA



Flight Auckland to USA (return +1 day)

TAKE TIME CUSTOM--DO NOT COPY